

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00  
CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5582  
INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1654

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP (BROWN, HAROLD), MPOL, NO  
SUBJECT: SECDEF'S VISIT: SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR MEETINGS  
WITH PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER

1. BECAUSE OF THE PRESENT STATE OF THE NORWEGIAN ECONOMY  
AND ITS POSSIBLE IMPACT ON DEFENSE EXPENDITURES (OSLO 1507)  
AND OF NORWAY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION (OSLO 1486),  
WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT YOU EMPHASIZE THE FOLLOWING POINTS  
IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER NORDLI, FOREIGN  
MINISTER FRYDENLUND AND DEFENSE MINISTER HANSEN.

ECONOMY/DEFENSE EXPENDITURES:---WHILE THE USG IS VERY SYMPATH-  
ETIC TO THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS THAT NORWAY IS NOW CONFRONTING,  
WE AT THE SAME TIME ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONDITION OF  
NATO'S DEFENSE VIS-A-VIS THE WARSAW PACT. IT WAS BECAUSE OF  
THIS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER AT THE LONDON SUMMIT LAST MAY  
SUGGESTED THAT THE ALLIANCE UNDERTAKE A MAJOR PROGRAM DESIGNED  
TO IDENTIFY AND CORRECT THE SHORT AND LONG TERM PROBLEMS.  
NATO'S EXCELLENT EFFORTS ARE NOW COMING UP FOR REVIEW IN  
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WASHINGTON AT THE MAY SUMMIT. THE USG FEELS VERY STRONGLY  
THAT ALL ALLIES MUST MAKE AN EXTRA EFFORT TO CONTRIBUTE TO  
THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THIS VITAL REMEDIAL EFFORT.

COPRODUCTION--ONE OF THE ALLIANCE'S MAJOR EFFORTS IN THE  
LAST TWO YEARS HAS BEEN TO WORK TOWARDS STANDARDIZATION  
AND INTEROPERABILITY OF ITS MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

NORWAY'S LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE VERY IMPORTANT F-16 CONSORTIUM WAS AN IMPORTANT BENCH MARK TOWARDS ACHIEVING THIS NECESSARY GOAL. NORWAY HAS EXPERIENCED IN THE CASE OF F-16 AND OTHER COPRODUCTION PROJECTS HOW DOMESTIC INTERESTS, ESPECIALLY EMPLOYMENT, CAN BE SERVED AT THE SAME TIME THAT DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS ARE BEING FULFILLED. THEREFORE AS NORWAY THE USG AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE LOOK AT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TEN NATO TASK FORCES AND IDENTIFY THE EQUIPMENT THAT IS SUGGESTED FOR DEVELOPMENT OR PROCUREMENT WE SHOULD ALL BEAR IN MIND THE POSSIBILITIES FOR ACHIEVING OUR DUAL PURPOSES; THAT IS, CREATING JOBS INTERNALLY AND UPGRADING OUR MUTUAL DEFENSE. THE USG HAS BECOME VERY SENSITIVE TO THIS NEED ESPECIALLY IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS AND MY DEPUTY, AMBASSADOR KOMER, HAS BEEN WORKING VERY HARD WITH THE ARMY, THE NAVY AND THE AIR FORCE TO INSURE THAT ALL COPRODUCTION ALTERNATIVES ARE BUILT INTO OUR WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

THE NORWEGIAN/SOVIET RELATIONSHIP---THE USG IS FULLY AWARE OF, AND SENSITIVE TO, THE INCREASINGLY ROUGH TENOR OF THE GON/SOVIET RELATIONSHIP AND TO THE HARD NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED. WE ARE PREPARED TO BE AS SUPPORTIVE AS POSSIBLE AND WOULD BE INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING ANY WAYS THE GON THINKS WE COULD BE HELPFUL.

--IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO HEAR THE NORWEGIANS' DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH MOSCOW AND ALSO THEIR FEELINGS CONCERNING THE STATE OF EAST/WEST RELATIONSHIPS,

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PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO THE NORTHERN FLANK.

2. YOU CAN ANTICIPATE THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTERS FRYDENLUND AND HANSEN ARE GOING TO BE VERY INTERESTED IN HEARING YOUR DESCRIPTION OF THE US/SOVIET RELATIONSHIP PARTICULARLY THE CURRENT STATE OF PLAY IN THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** OVIP, MPOL, NO, US, (BROWN, HAROLD)  
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